CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE WILDLIFE

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research

1400 Tenth Street, Room 121 Sacramento, California 95814

County Clerk Monterey County 168 West Alisal Street Monterey, CA 93901

From: California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Central Region

1234 E. Shaw Avenue Fresno, California 93710

Project Title: Boardwalks Rebuild (2)

Project Location - Specific: Elkhorn Slough Ecological Reserve, 1700 Elkhorn Road,

Monterey County

Project Location – City, County: Unincorporated north Monterey County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:

The proposed project will include the demolition of two over-water boardwalks and rebuilding two boardwalks in a similar design. These boardwalks in their current state of disrepair are a safety hazard and remain a liability if they remain standing. These improvements will maintain public access to aquatic habitats in the Elkhorn Slough on the publicly owned Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve. The construction area has already been disturbed by the existing infrastructure (which will be removed) and is part of a lands management regime.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Exempt Status: (check one)

- □ Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- □ Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- □ Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- **X** Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: 15301 (d)
 Restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment
- □ Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

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Reasons why project is exempt:

The project is exempt as it entails replacement of two existing, damaged boardwalks in kind and in place. The project does not trigger any of the exceptions described in CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2.

Lead Agency Contact Person:	Dave Feliz, 831-728-2822
Signature: Valerie Cook	Date: 6/8/2022
	Title: Acting Regional Manage
Date received for filing at OPR:	